- Invitation to distinguished men and women of Indian origin settled abroad for short term technical assignments to assist in frontier and emerging areas of S&T;
- Fast Track Scheme for Young Scientists;
- Better Opportunities for Young Scientists in Chosen Areas of Science and Technology (BOYSCAST) fellowship to visit international laboratories and institutions;
- Contact programmes to attract and motivate brilliant young scientists to take up R&D as a career;
- Scientists are given financial assistance to participate in international conferences and training programmes abroad;
- Early Faculty Induction Programme, which aims at attracting bright and young undergraduate students in Engineering and Technology/Pharmacy/Architecture, etc. to take as their career.

Testing of Solverter

†149. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS:
SHRI BALAVANT *ALIAS* BAL APTE:

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the scientists of The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) have tested Solverter;

(b) whether it is proposed to be patented;

(c) the target of production of Solverter on commercial scale; and

(d) the purposes for which Solverter would be utilized in rural areas?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Reservation for physically challenged persons

150. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether reservation for physically challenged persons is not strictly compiled with; and

(b) if so, the action taken to ensure its compliance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI SUBBULAKSHMI JAGADEESAN): (a) and (b) The Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995 provides for 3% reservation in vacancies in Govt. establishments, educational institutions and in poverty alleviation schemes. The concerned Ministries in the Central Govt. and State Governments/UT Administrations implemented the provisions of the Act.

To ensure compliance of various provisions of the Act, the Chief Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities at the Centre and State Commissioners monitors the implementation.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.